ESCRICK

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

1925.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE ESCRICK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1925.

To the Chairman and Members of the Escrick Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting for your consideration my Report for the year 1925. The area of the District is 30,292 acres. The estimated population is 5,896.

The number of inhabited houses is 1,200.

The rateable value is £35,173.

The sum represented by a penny rate is £146 11s. 1d.

BIRTH-RATE.

The births registered are 103, 57 males and 46 females; 6 males and 3 females are illegitimate. The birth-rate is 17.4 per 1,000 of the population. In 1924 it was 18.1. The birth-rate for England and Wales is 18.3.

DEATH-RATE.

The deaths registered are 55, 28 males and 27 females, giving a death-rate of 9.3 per 1,000 of the population. In 1924 it was 11.1. The death-rate for England and Wales is 12.2.

The Infantile mortality rate is .8 or 46 per 1,000 births registered. In 1924 it was 37.

The Zymotic death-rate is nil. In 1924 it was 1.0.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1925.

There were 55 deaths as follows:—Tuberculosis, 4; Cancer, 7; Diabetes, 1; Cerebral Hæmorrhage, 6; Heart Disease, 3; Arterio-Sclerosis, 3; Bronchitis, 1; Pneumonia, 5; other Respiratory Diseases, 2; Nephritis, 2; Congenital Debility, Malformation, and Premature Birth, 2; other Deaths from Violence, 3; other Defined Diseases, 15.

CASES OF SICKNESS REPORTED UNDER THE NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACT.

Diphtheria, 1; Scarlet Fever, 40; Enteric Fever, 2; Erysipelas, 1; Tuberculosis, 3.

DIPHTHERIA (1 case).

This case was notified from Wheldrake.

SCARLET FEVER (40 cases).

Seventeen occurred at West Cottingwith, 12 at Wheldrake, 5 at Thorganby, 3 at Fulford, 1 at Crockey Hill, 1 at Naburn, and 1 at Thicket Priory.

ENTERIC FEVER (2 cases).

These were notified from the City Asylum, Fulford.

ERYSIPELAS (1 case).

This also occurred in the City Asylum.

TUBERCULOSIS (3 cases).

One at Heslington, 1 at Dunnington, and 1 at Fulford. A case at Elvington which had been notified in 1923, and a woman at Deighton who was on a visit from York, were also notified.

I visited the greater number of all the notified infectious diseases.

Full particulars of these have been given to the Council at the monthly meetings. The epidemics at West Cottingwith, Thorganby, and Wheldrake were of a mild type. When thought advisable, cases are removed to the Isolation Hospitals. The City Asylum has its own Isolation Wards. Stoving and disinfecting of houses, bedding, clothing, etc., are systematically carried out. Schools are closed and disinfected, and children excluded from school, as precautionary measures when thought advisable. Cases of Tuberculosis are all visited by me, with the exception of those at the City Asylum, and advice is given as to the precautions, etc., to be observed. Any sanitary defects found receive attention. Patients are removed to a Sanatorium or Hospital for treatment in all suitable cases.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

With the exception of Fulford, the inhabitants are chiefly engaged in agricultural pursuits and the trades dependent thereon. There are no factories or workshops of any importance in the District. The latter are visited by the Inspector and any defects found receive attention.

In addition to having the attention of the Poor Law Medical Officers, cases of sickness are admitted into the York County Hospital and Poor Law Infirmary. For infectious cases an agreement is in force for the admission of patients into the Driffield Isolation Hospital. Antitoxin is supplied free to medical men on request.

Pathological and Bacteriological examinations are made by the Clinical Research Association, London.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE DISTRICT.

The Health Visitors and the Medical Inspection of School Children are under the supervision of Dr. Thornley, East Riding County Medical Officer. The ambulance agreements for the removal of patients could not be improved upon. The sanitary condition of the schools is satisfactory. The District is adequately supplied with good wholesome milk. Water from the York City Mains is laid on to the village of Fulford. The rest of the District is chiefly dependent upon shallow surface wells, which are liable to pollution. The Council are aware of the benefits and advantages resulting from a good wholesome supply of water, but owing to the scattered nature of the District, with its numerous farm houses, no practical plan has been found for laying on a good water supply.

Public Scavenging is carried out in the villages of Wheldrake, Heslington, Dunnington, Elvington, and Fulford, and has been adopted, but not enforced, in the rest of the District. The closets in general use are of the privy and pan type. A number of w.c.'s have been put in at Fulford. Defects in drainage or sewage are dealt with by the Inspector.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No pollution of rivers or streams has been reported during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The Sanitary Inspector will give you particulars of the number of inspections made, defects or nuisances discovered, and the action and results of action taken in regard to these.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALWYN RAIMES, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

REGULATIONS of the Ministry of Health relating to the duties of Sanitary Inspectors.

Dwelling-houses inspected. 70.

Dwelling-houses, Notices served. A few minor cases.

New houses built. 2.

Dwelling-houses disinfected after cases of ordinary infectious disease. All cases.

Dwelling-houses disinfected after cases of Phthisis. All cases.

Schools disinfected after cases of ordinary infectious disease. 2.

Dwelling-houses found overcrowded. A few cases.

Total number of nuisances found. A few minor ones.

Total number of nuisances abated. All.

Water Supplies—

Houses newly supplied from water mains. 2.

Dairies and Cowsheds—

Have Regulations been adopted. Yes.

No. of Dairies and Cowsheds on Register. 44.

No. of Cows. About 400.

Visits to Cowsheds. 60.

Visits to Dairies. 2.

Slaughter-houses—

No. on Register. 7.

No. of visits to. Each visited weekly.

Unwholesome food condemned—

Meat—2 sheep and 3 pigs surrendered.

TABLE C.—1925.

Nuisance Inspections—

Total No. of Inspections made in 1925. 70.
Total needing abatement. A few minor cases.
Abated during 1925. All.

Knackers' Yards—

No. in District, 1; No. on Register, 1; Total No. of Inspections made, several.

Drainage and Sewerage—

Developments during 1925. Improvement at Fulford.
Any sink wastes still needing disconnection. A few.

Closet Accommodation—

No. of Pail or Tub Closets. A large number.
No. of Privies with covered middens. All.
No. of Water Closets. 100.
No. of Closets constructed in 1925 for new houses. W.c.'s, 2.

Scavenging—

Performed by Contractor. 5.
How is refuse disposed of, Farmers, all to Farmers; Total annual cost, £320.

Milk Supply—

No. of Milk Cows kept in District. About 400.
No. of Cowkeepers in District producing and selling milk. 14.
No. Registered. 44.
No. of Retail Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers. 20.
No. who are Milk Retailers only. 30.
Total No. of Retail Milk Sellers Registered. 30.
Total No. of Cowsheds. 44.
Total No. of Inspections in 1925. 44.
Cowkeepers, 14; Retailers, 30.

Other Foods—

What accommodation Private Registered Slaughter-house.
No. of Slaughter-houses, 7; Registered, 7; Licensed, 7.
No. of times Slaughter-house Inspected. Weekly.

Schools—

No. of Schools in District. 9.
No. visited by M.O.H. Several.
Action taken. Closed for disinfecting, etc.
Schools are closed by—" County " M.O.H.

Factories and Workshops—

No. of Workshops. 2.
No. of times each Workshop Inspected. 2.
Total Inspections. 4.

SUMMARY OF HOUSING WORK DURING 1925.

Houses inspected for "Housing defects" in 1925—

Total inspected and recorded. 70.

Houses found satisfactory on inspection. All.

Houses not reasonably fit—

Houses found with defects. A few.

Houses of this class remedied without formal notice. All.

Action under Public Health Acts—

Houses with defects. 70.

Houses remedied without service of formal notice. All cases.

Other action in regard to Housing—

Total number of Houses in District. About 1,200, chiefly working-class houses.

General standard compared with that of the Ministry of Health in Manual Vol. I, 1919. Satisfactory.

Unfit Houses—

Any overcrowding in houses, and where. A few cases.